
ADVERSE DRIVING CONDITIONS AND DRIVER EMERGENCIES

**ADVERSE DRIVING CONDITIONS REQUIRE
ADDITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS.**

NIGHT DRIVING

SPEED

DRIVERS CANNOT SEE AS FAR AT NIGHT.

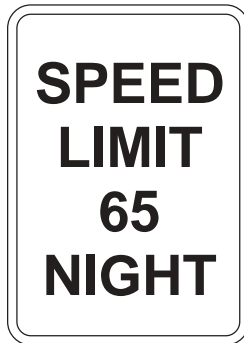
Sometimes it is **NOT WISE** to drive as fast as the speed limit allows.

The driver **ADJUSTS SPEED AT NIGHT** to allow for road conditions, weather conditions and the condition of the vehicle.



SPEED

NIGHT



Roadway	Cars		Trucks	
	Day	Night	Day	Night
Interstate	75	75	65	65
In Urban Areas	65	65	65	65
Other Highways	70	65	60	55
US 93	65	65	60	55

Drivers cannot see well at night. **LIMIT YOUR SPEED.**

Drive so that you can see well within your stopping distance.

Speeding at night comes under Montana law.

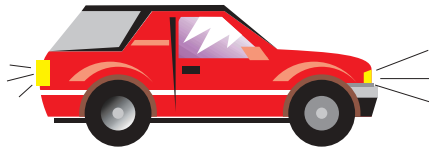
A violation goes on the driver's record.

You can be fined up to \$100.00.

HEADLIGHTS

WHEN TO TURN THEM ON

Turn headlights **ON**



one-half hour after sunset. **KEEP THEM ON UNTIL** one-half hour before sunrise.

or

ANY TIME there is not enough light for you to see people or cars 500 feet away.

At dusk or on overcast days,
turn your vehicle headlights on.



If you are wearing sunglasses, be sure to remove them.

KNOW WHERE THE SWITCH is to put your lights on high or low beams.

ADVERSE DRIVING CONDITIONS

WEATHER

WEATHER affects your ability to see and be seen.

IT IS DIFFICULT FOR YOU TO SEE:

- the edge of the road
- lane markings
- traffic signals
- other cars



It makes it **DIFFICULT** for the other driver to see you also.

BRIGHT IDEAS



To protect yourself from daytime glare, invest in a pair of sunglasses. A good pair will help you see through the glare.

Tilt your sunvisor all the way forward; then bring it back to shade your eyes. Always keep it pointed forward when using it.

ROAD CONDITIONS

WHEN IT IS RAINING:

- Driving is most dangerous just at the beginning of the storm (there is still an oil film on the road).
- Reduce your speed.
- Put your windshield wipers on.
- Turn on your headlights.
- If water is across the road, **DO NOT** attempt to pass until you know how deep it is.

When water from rain is on the road, depending on vehicle speed, your tires may be floating on a film of water. This is called **HYDROPLANING**.

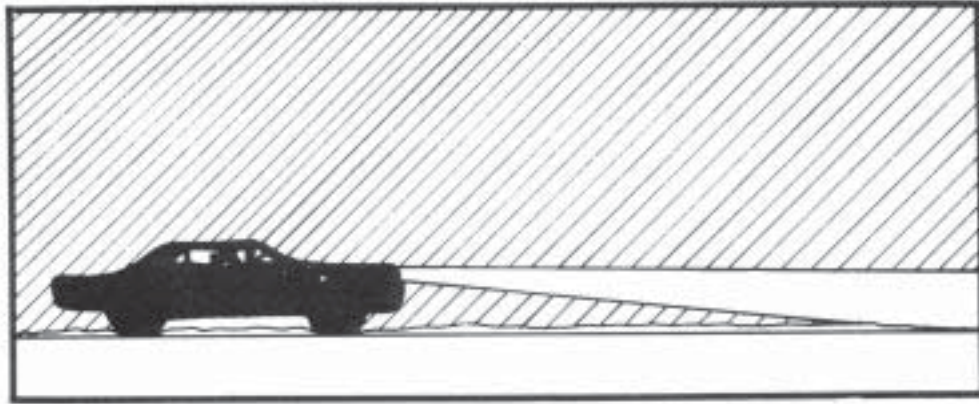
HYDROPLANING



HEADLIGHTS

IN FOG OR SNOW

Driving at night in fog or snow.



USE LOW HEADLIGHT BEAM.

The high beam lights up the moisture and fast moving snow which glares back in the driver's eyes.

The moisture streaks toward the windshield and reduces visibility.

It is easier to see on low beam.

REDUCE SPEED. Seeing distance is shorter.

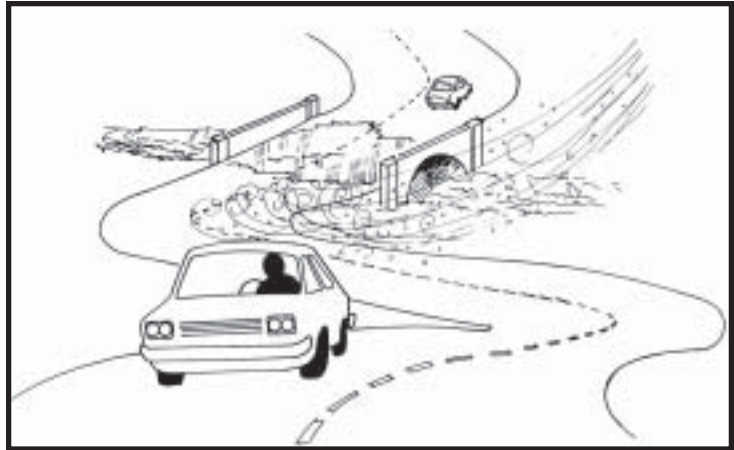
ROAD CONDITIONS

WHEN IT IS ICY:

- Slow down.
- Be alert for ice on bridges, overpasses and underpasses.
- Don't "overbrake." It may cause a skid.
- If your car begins to skid, always turn your wheels in the direction that you want to go.

WHEN IT IS SNOWING OR FOGGY:

- Slow down. Turn your headlights on low beam and stop if you cannot see the roadway.
- If there is a lot of snow, you might be required to have winter tires or tire chains.
- Turn on your windshield wipers if needed.
- Increase your following distance.



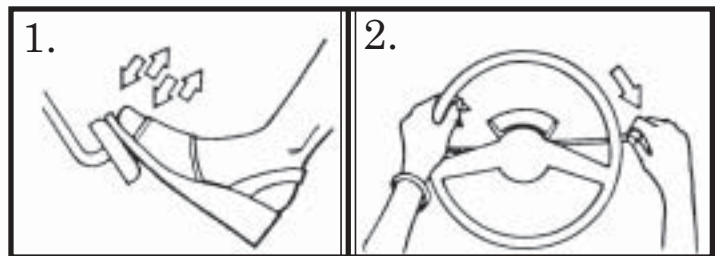
DRIVING EMERGENCIES

If you become **STUCK** in the snow:

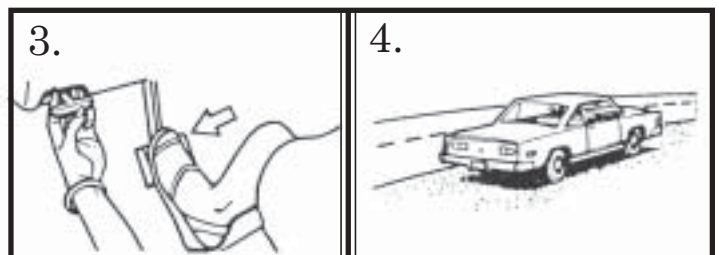
- Don't panic.
- Stay in the car. You are more likely to be found.
- Keep a window slightly open.
- Don't let the snow block the exhaust pipe.
- Keep moving your arms and legs.
- Run your engine and heater sparingly.
- Take turns keeping watch.

If your **BRAKES FAIL:**

1. Pump brake pedal fast up and down.
2. Shift to a lower gear.



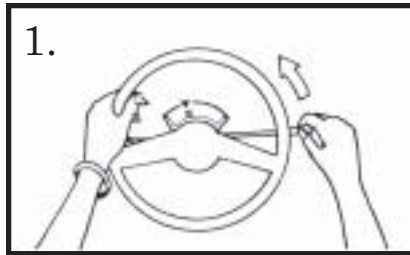
3. Apply parking brake while holding release lever in "off" position.
4. When the vehicle has slowed and it is safe to do so, steer the car off the roadway.



DRIVING EMERGENCIES

IF YOUR GAS PEDAL STICKS: DON'T PANIC

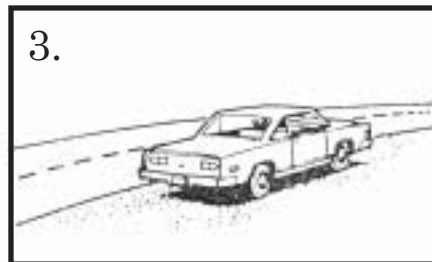
1. Shift to Neutral.



2. Squeeze brake and stop vehicle.



3. Steer to side of street or off the road.



4. Turn the engine off.

DO NOT reach down and attempt to pull the pedal up.

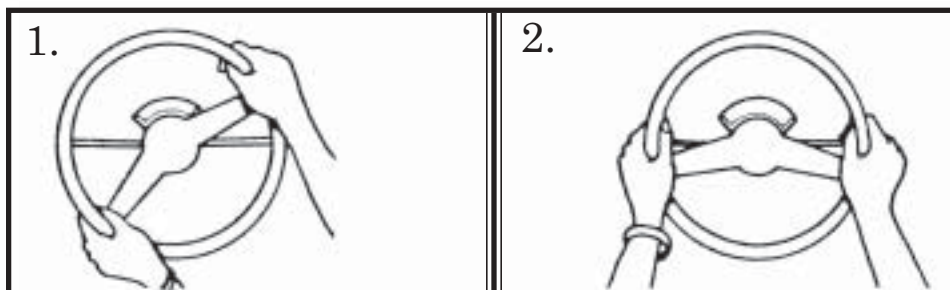
RUNNING OFF THE PAVEMENT

If your vehicle's right wheels go off the pavement, follow these steps;



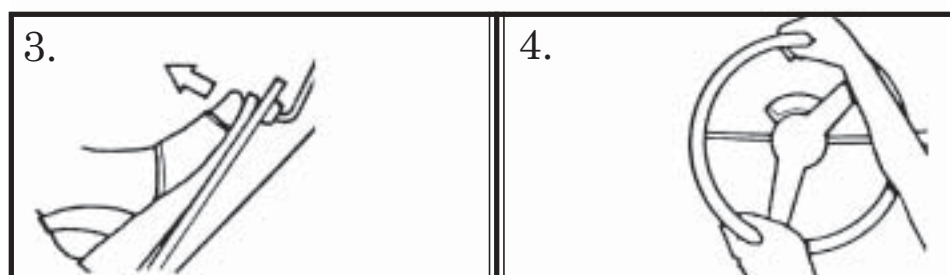
1. Steer slightly left to counteract pull to right.

2. Hold wheel firmly and steer straight.



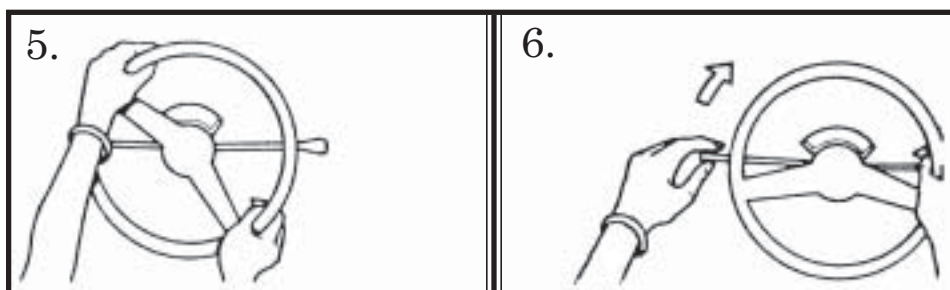
3. Decelerate to 5 to 10 m.p.h. (8 to 16 km/h) to a spot where shoulder and road are nearly level.

4. With no oncoming traffic, signal and steer sharply left toward pavement.



5. Steer sharply right when front tire hits pavement.

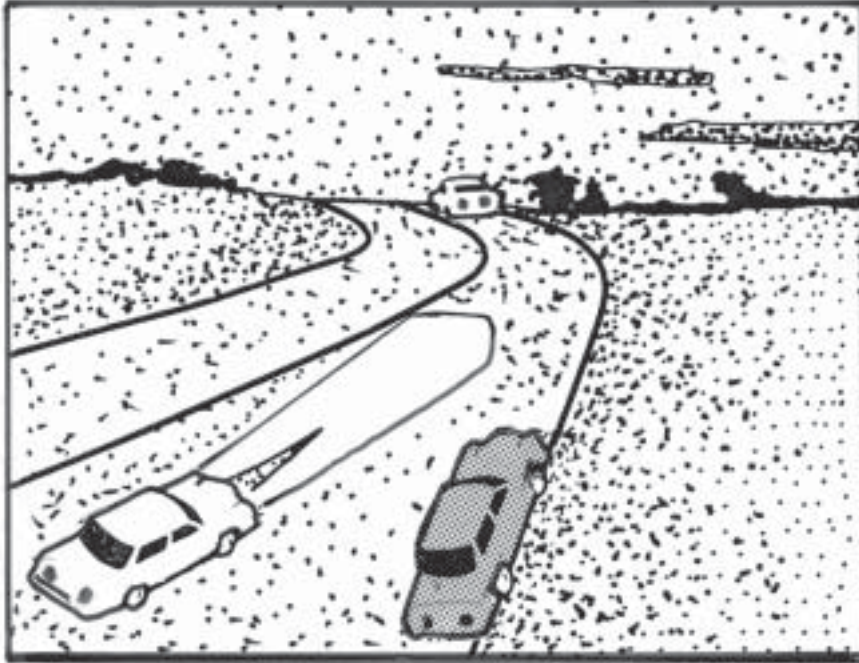
6. Cancel signal.



DRIVING EMERGENCIES

If your vehicle becomes **DISABLED AT NIGHT** on the highway:

PULL your vehicle off the roadway to the right.



LEAVE your parking lights on to warn other drivers.

You must have lights from the rear visible for 500 feet.

DON'T stand or lie in the roadway.

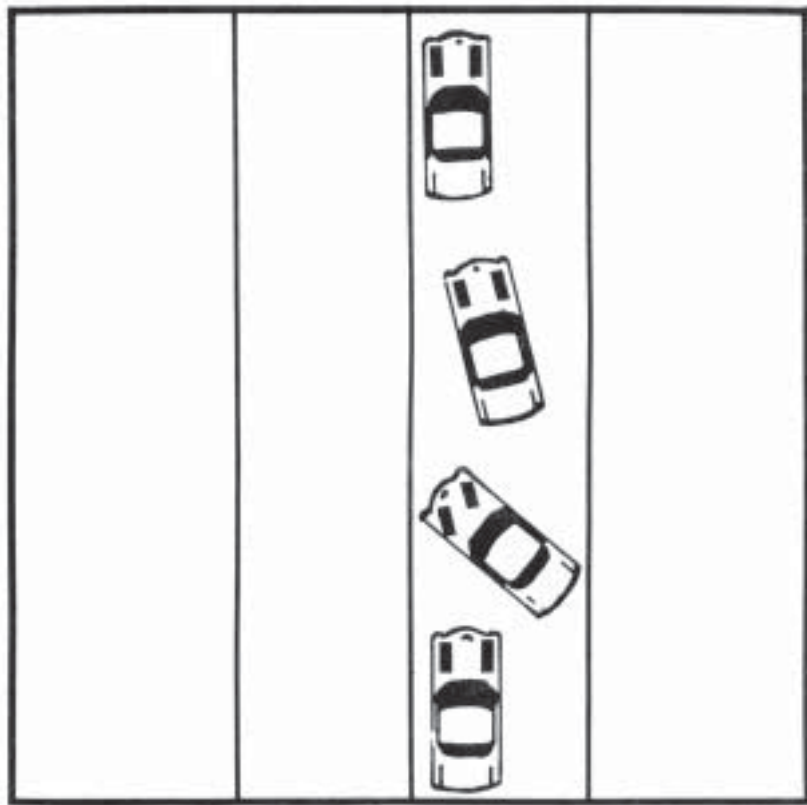
TURN ON YOUR EMERGENCY FLASHERS.

Protect the vehicle with flares or emergency triangle reflectors that are set back 100 feet front and rear.

DRIVING EMERGENCIES

SKID CONTROL

Getting **OUT**
of a side skid:



1. **RELEASE** the accelerator (gradually if your speed is at all high).
2. **DON'T** brake.
3. **DON'T** panic. Just follow your natural instinct to steer in the direction you want to go. (If rear wheels skid to the right, turn right; if they skid left, turn left.)
4. **WHEN** the skid stops, return the wheel to the straight position as quickly as the rear end returns to the straight position.

DRIVING EMERGENCIES

FLAT TIRE OR BLOWOUT

- If you are driving fast, you could lose control. (You should always drive with both hands on the wheel.)
- Hold steering wheel firmly.
- Keep the vehicle in its lane.
- **DON'T HIT THE BRAKES.**
- Take your foot off the gas.
- When you are down to about 20 M.P.H., you can begin braking and pull off the road.



SELF-TEST

ADVERSE DRIVING CONDITIONS AND DRIVER EMERGENCIES

Directions: Choose only one answer.

1. When driving at night in fog or snow, you should:
 - a. use high beams.
 - b. use low beams.
 - c. stop until the road clears.

2. If the accelerator sticks when driving, you should:
 - a. shift to neutral, apply steady pressure on the brake, pull off the roadway.
 - b. maintain steady pressure on brakes until accelerator is free.
 - c. reach down and pull it up.

3. If you have a flat tire when driving at highway speed, you should:
 - a. hit the brakes.
 - b. start pulling off the road as you slow down.
 - c. hold firmly to the wheel.

4. If stuck in the snow in the country, you should:
 - a. stay in the car with window slightly open.
 - b. keep engine going to stay warm.
 - c. walk to the nearest farmhouse.

5. If your car goes into a skid, you should not:
 - a. apply the brakes.
 - b. release the accelerator.
 - c. turn in the direction you want to go.

6. If you run off the pavement, you should not:
 - a. grip the steering wheel firmly.
 - b. try to get the vehicle right back on the pavement.
 - c. take your foot off the gas.

7. Driving in the rain is most dangerous:
 - a. after it has rained for several hours.
 - b. after a storm is over.
 - c. just at the beginning of the rain.